

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims for this application. Within this listing of the claims, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 12-17, and 22 are currently amended and claims 6, 7, 10, 11, 50-53, and 56 are canceled. Claims 41-44 were previously canceled.

1. **(Currently amended)** An erodible, gastric-retentive drug dosage form for administering a pharmacologically active agent to the stomach, duodenum, and upper small intestine of a patient, the dosage form comprising the pharmacologically active agent incorporated in a matrix of at least ~~one~~ two ~~biocompatible, hydrophilic polymer that (a) swells~~ polyalkylene oxide polymers or copolymers, wherein at least one of the at least two polyalkylene oxide polymers or copolymers is a high molecular weight polyalkylene oxide polymer that enhances swelling in the dosage form in the presence of water in gastric fluid such that the size of the dosage form is sufficiently increased to provide gastric retention in the stomach of a patient in whom the fed mode has been induced and at least one other of the at least two polyalkylene oxide polymers is a low molecular weight polyalkylene oxide polymer that enhances erosion of the dosage form to gradually erode, ~~(b) gradually erodes~~ within the gastrointestinal tract over a determinable time period, ~~and (c) wherein the dosage form releases the active agent throughout the determinable time period~~ [[,]] and further wherein after incorporation of the active agent, the matrix is compressed to form a tablet, and further wherein and the dosage form is optimized by subjecting the dosage form to a disintegration test for an extended period of time such that the dosage form has an *in vitro* active agent release profile that correlates to a desired *in vivo* active agent release profile for the dosage form, ~~and yet further wherein the dosage form exceeds about 1 cm in diameter in a swollen state, and the dosage form swells sufficiently fast to allow retention of the dosage form in the stomach before significant erosion of the dosage form occurs.~~

2. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein a first fraction of the active agent is released from the dosage form by diffusing out of the polymer matrix ~~as a result of (a) during swelling~~ and a second fraction of the active agent is released from the dosage form ~~by erosion of the polymer matrix during (b) during erosion~~.

3. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 2, wherein the second fraction is greater than the first fraction.

4. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 3, wherein at least 75 wt.% of the active agent is released within the determinable time period.

5. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 4, wherein at least 85 wt.% of the active agent is released within the determinable time period.

6-7. **(Canceled)**

8. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim ~~[[7]]~~ 1, wherein the at least ~~one~~ biocompatible hydrophilic polymer is a two polyalkylene oxide polymers are independently selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene oxide), poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), and mixtures thereof.

9. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 8, wherein the at least ~~one biocompatible hydrophilic polymer is~~ two polyalkylene oxide polymers are comprised of poly(ethylene oxide) optionally in admixture with poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide).

10-11. **(Canceled)** .

12. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein ~~the at least one biocompatible hydrophilic polymer has~~ the high molecular weight polyalkylene oxide polymer has a number average molecular weight in the range of approximately 5,000 and 20,000,000 above 2,000,000 and the low molecular weight polyalkylene oxide polymer has a number average molecular weight of 2,000,000 or less.

13. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of the active agent to the ~~biocompatible hydrophilic polymer~~ at least two polyalkylene oxide polymers is in the range of about 1:5 to about 85:15.

14. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 13, wherein the weight ratio of the active agent to the ~~biocompatible hydrophilic polymer~~ at least two polyalkylene oxide polymers is in the range of about 5:95 to about 80:20.

15. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 14, wherein the weight ratio of the active agent to the ~~biocompatible hydrophilic polymer~~ at least two polyalkylene oxide polymers is in the range of about 30:70 to about 80:20.

16. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 15, wherein the weight ratio of the active agent to the ~~biocompatible hydrophilic polymer~~ at least two polyalkylene oxide polymers is in the range of about 30:70 to about 70:30.

17. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein at least one of the ~~biocompatible hydrophilic~~ at least two polyalkylene oxide polymers is crosslinked.

18. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active agent has an aqueous solubility of less than about 25 wt.% at 20°C.

19. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 18, wherein the active agent has an aqueous solubility of less than about 10 wt.% at 20°C.

20. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 19, wherein the active agent has an aqueous solubility of less than about 5 wt.% at 20°C.

21. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active agent has a molecular weight greater than 300 daltons.

22. **(Currently amended)** The dosage form of claim 18, wherein the ~~at least one~~ two ~~biocompatible hydrophilic polymer has~~ polyalkylene oxide polymers independently have a number average molecular weight in the range of about 10,000 to 8,000,000.

23. **(Previously presented)** The dosage form of claim 18, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of ciprofloxacin, topiramate, nifedipine, acyclovir, alprazolam, phenytoin, carbamazepine, ranitidine, cimetidine, famotidine, clozapine, nizatidine, omeprazole, gemfibrozil, lovastatin, nitrofurantoin, losartan, docetaxel and paclitaxel.

24. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 23, wherein the active agent is topiramate.

25. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 23, wherein the active agent is paclitaxel.
26. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 18, wherein the active agent is a *Helicobacter pylori* eradicator.
27. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 26, wherein said eradicator is selected from the group consisting of bismuth subsalicylate, bismuth citrate, amoxicillin, tetracycline, minocycline, doxycycline, clarithromycin, thiamphenicol, metronidazole, omeprazole, ranitidine, cimetidine, famotidine and combinations thereof.
28. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 27, wherein said eradicator is bismuth subsalicylate.
29. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active agent is contained within a vesicle.
30. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 29, wherein the active agent is water soluble but rendered sparingly water soluble by the vesicle.
31. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 30, wherein the vesicle is selected from the group consisting of liposomes, nanoparticles, proteinoid and amino acid microspheres, and pharmacosomes.
32. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 31, wherein the vesicle is comprised of a nanoparticle.
33. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 32, wherein the nanoparticle is a nanosphere, a nanocrystal, or a nanocapsule.
34. **(Previously presented)** The dosage form of claim 30, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of metformin hydrochloride, vancomycin hydrochloride, captopril, erythromycin lactobionate, ranitidine hydrochloride, sertraline hydrochloride, ticlopidine hydrochloride, amoxicillin, cefuroxime axetil, cefaclor, clindamycin, doxifluridine, tramadol, fluoxetine hydrochloride, ciprofloxacin hydrochloride, ganciclovir, bupropion, lisinopril, minocycline, doxycycline, and esters of ampicillin.

35. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 34, wherein the active agent is metformin hydrochloride.

36. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 34, wherein the active agent is ciprofloxacin hydrochloride.

37. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active agent is enterically coated.

38. **(Canceled)**

39. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dosage form is comprised of a tablet.

40. **(Original)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dosage form is comprised of a capsule.

41-44. **(Canceled)**

45. **(Previously presented)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the correlation between the *in vitro* active agent release profile and the *in vivo* active agent release profile is the same.

46. **(Previously presented)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the correlation between the *in vitro* active agent release profile and the *in vivo* active agent release profile is linear or substantially linear such that the ratio of *in vivo* disintegration to *in vitro* disintegration is constant or substantially constant.

47. **(Previously presented)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the disintegration test is conducted using USP disintegration test equipment.

48. **(Previously presented)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dosage form is optimized by increasing particle size of the active agent.

49. **(Previously presented)** The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dosage form is optimized by selecting a polymer that erodes faster than it swells.

50-53. (Canceled)

54. (Previously Presented) An erodible, gastric-retentive drug dosage form for administering a pharmacologically active agent to the stomach, duodenum, and upper small intestine of a patient, the dosage form comprising the pharmacologically active agent incorporated in a matrix of poly(ethylene oxide) admixed with poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), wherein the matrix (a) swells in the presence of water in gastric fluid such that the size of the dosage form is sufficiently increased to provide gastric retention in the stomach of a patient in whom the fed mode has been induced, (b) gradually erodes within the gastrointestinal tract over a determinable time period, and (c) releases the active agent throughout the determinable time period, and further wherein the dosage form is formulated so as to provide an active agent release profile *in vivo* that corresponds to a desired active agent release profile obtained for the dosage form *in vitro* using USP disintegration test equipment, wherein after incorporation of the active agent, the matrix is compressed to form a tablet.

55-56. (Canceled)